



“Roundtable Discussion on Agriculture in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”

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World Food Programme



World Food
Programme

DPR Korea Food Security and Nutrition: WFP's assessment

***2019 ROUNDTABLE ON DPRK
AGRICULTURE***

Seoul - September 2019

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

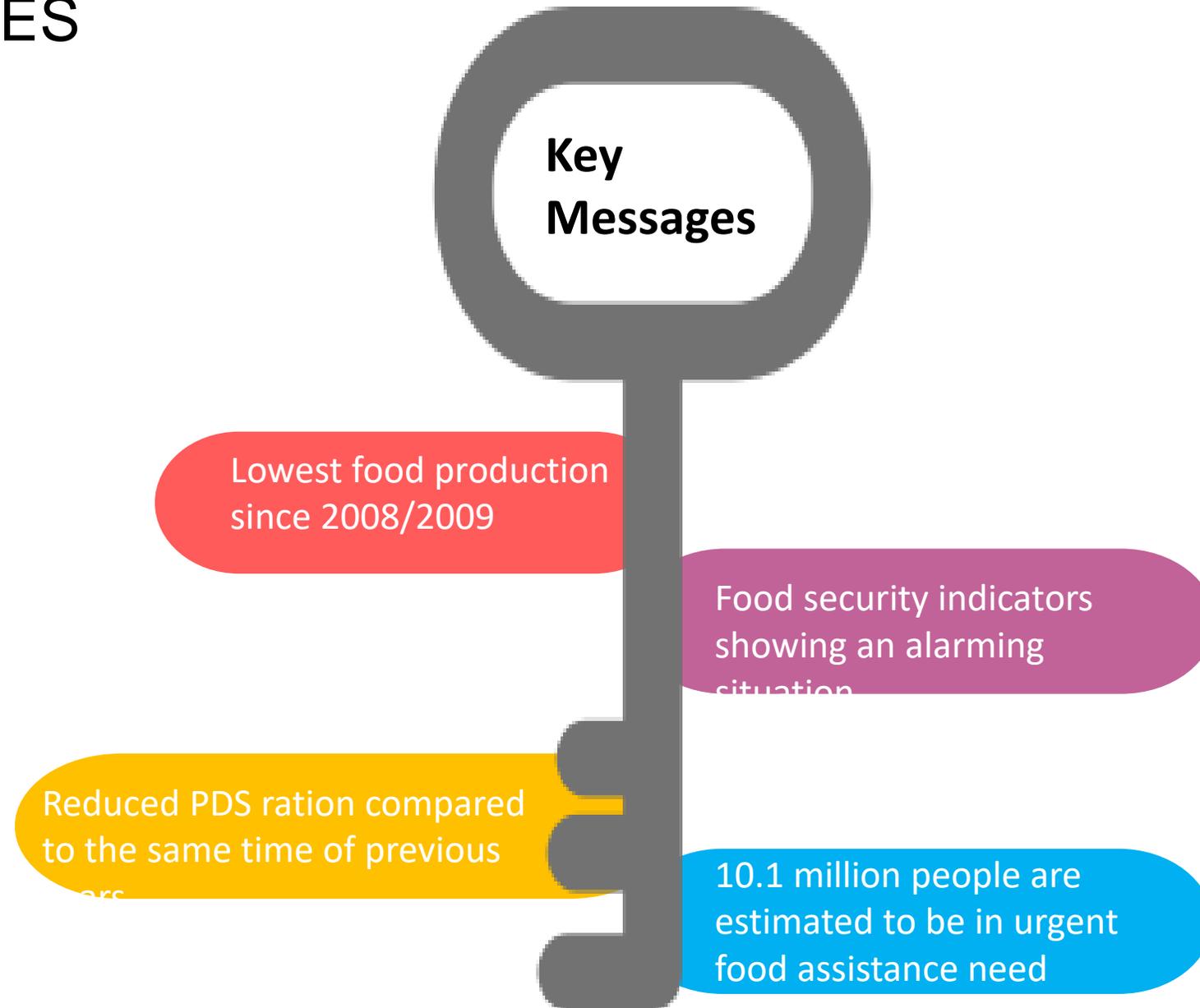


Food Security Situation

- Conduct an independent assessment of the 2018 production shortfall and the food security situation (Late Mar – Mid Apr 2019)
- The 2018 heat wave combined with flood resulted in a poor harvest.
- ✓ Overall grain deficit of 1.36 million mt.



KEY MESSAGES

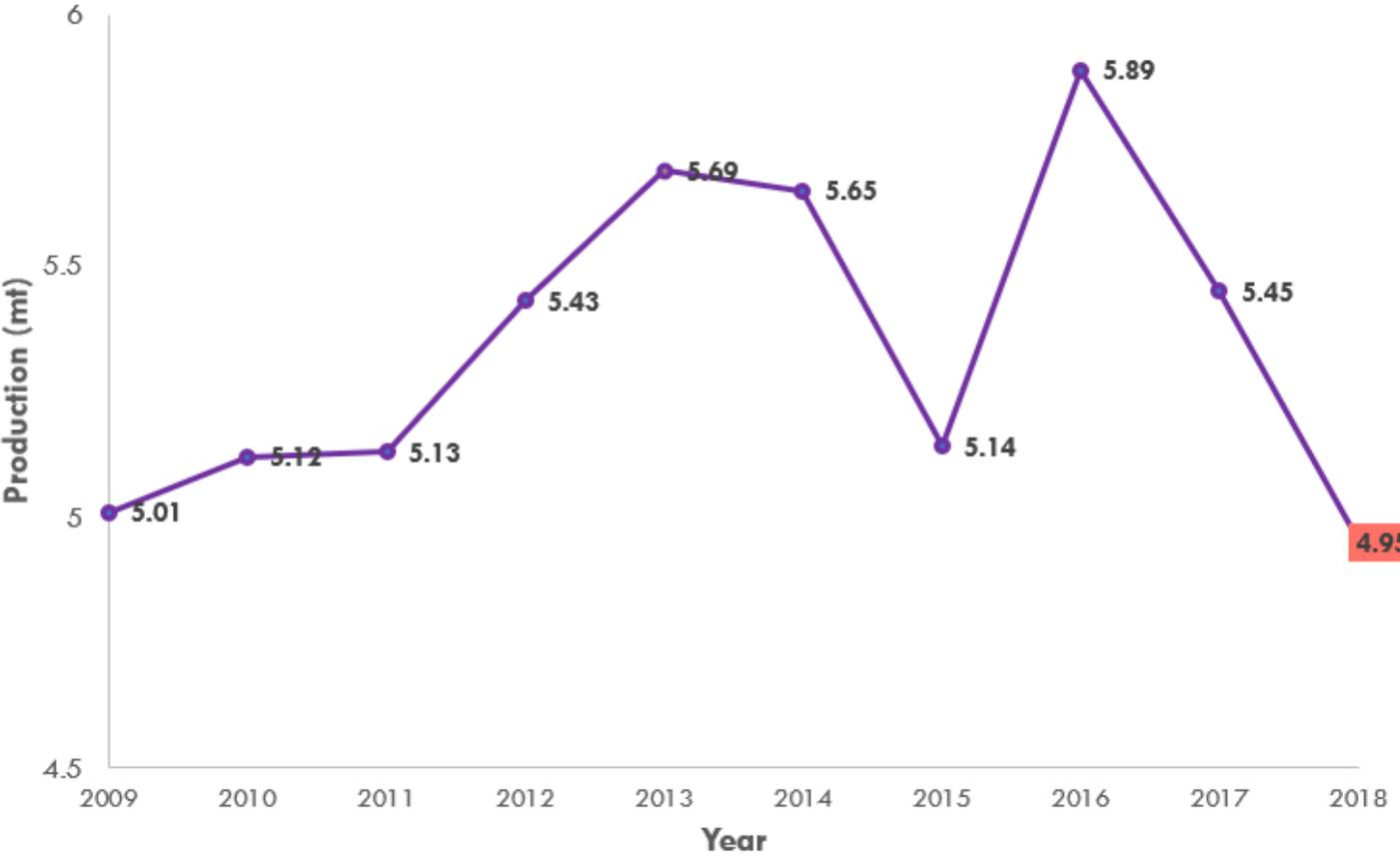


An aerial photograph of a wide river valley. A dirt road winds through the landscape, with several white SUVs parked or driving along it. The river flows through the center of the valley, surrounded by green fields and some rocky banks. The entire image has a light blue tint.

FOOD PRODUCTION ANALYSIS

Food Production in 2018

The 2018 aggregate food crop production is estimated to be at **4.9** million MT, 12 percent below previous year's near-average level and the lowest level since the 2008/2009 season .



Factors affecting yield:

- Natural disaster
- Seeds
- Plastic sheeting
- Fertilizers
- Farm power and fuel
- Crop pest and disease control
- Irrigation

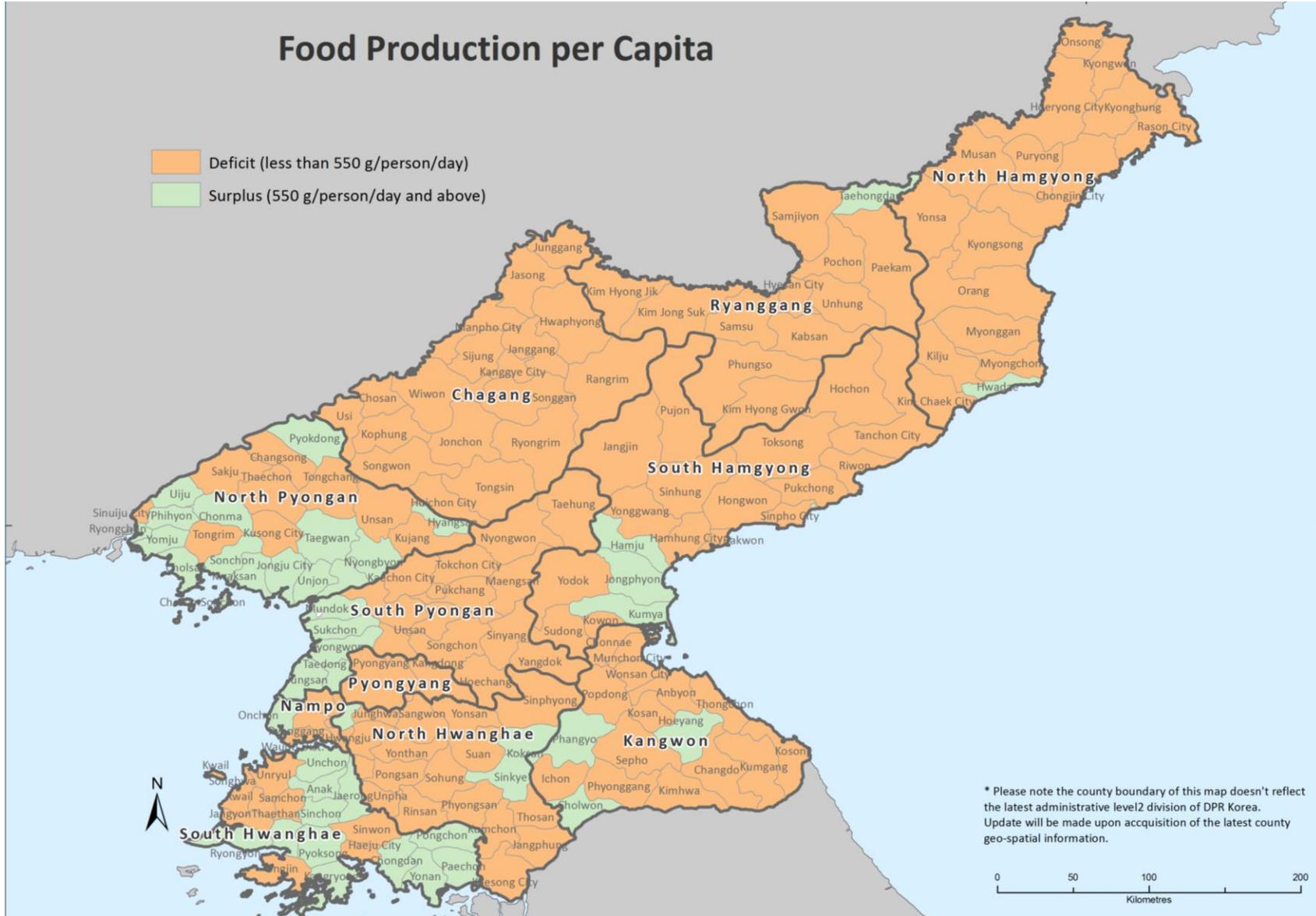


The uncovered deficit for the full marketing year is estimated at an elevated level of about **1.36** million mt.

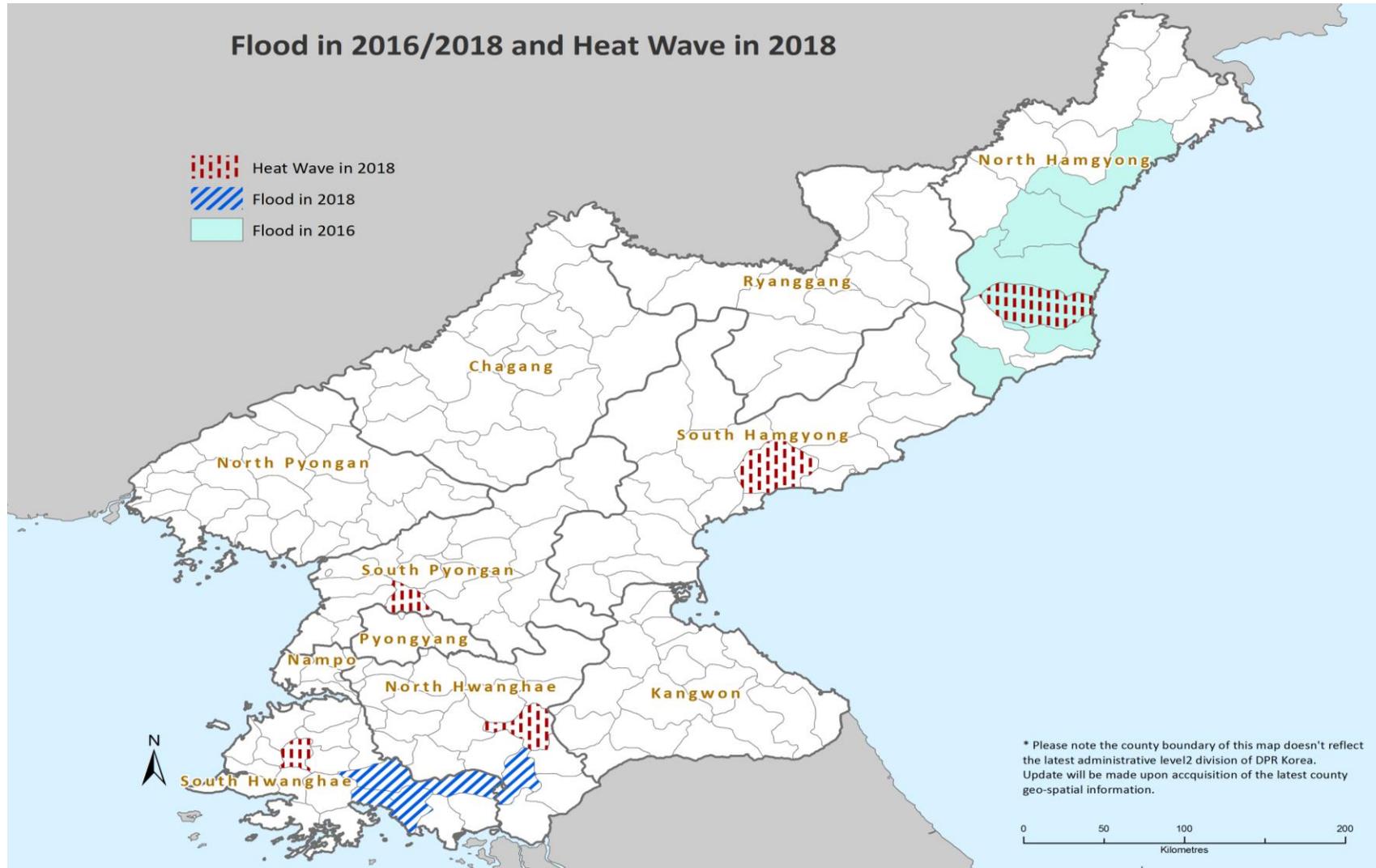


Food Production per Capita

- Deficit (less than 550 g/person/day)
- Surplus (550 g/person/day and above)



Weather Conditions



Reduced Harvested Area

2018 total harvested area is 1.2 million ha – 5 percent below the 5-year average

Due to:



Weather-related area losses



Dysfunctional agricultural equipment



Limited availability of inputs

Area	2018/2019 (‘000 ha)	Average
Paddy	471	496
Maize	508	535
Soybeans	107	148

CROPS PRODUCTION: KEY FACTS

- Only 15 percent of the land (1.9 million ha) is suitable for agriculture
- 5-75 Group: southern and central provinces produce 75 percent of crops (rice and maize); Ryangang - potatoes
- Main harvest btw September and October (rice; maize; soybean; sorghum; potatoes)
- Early crops harvested in June and July (winter wheat; barley) about 8 percent of total production

Source: CBS



An aerial photograph of a winding river in a rural landscape. A dirt road runs parallel to the river, with several white SUVs parked or driving along it. The background shows rolling green hills and a utility pole. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND OTHER SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Food Storage and Distribution Challenges

Storage challenges at both cooperative farm and household level due to poor facility maintenance and lack of power

Lack of transport and fuel to haul the crop field to the processing factories

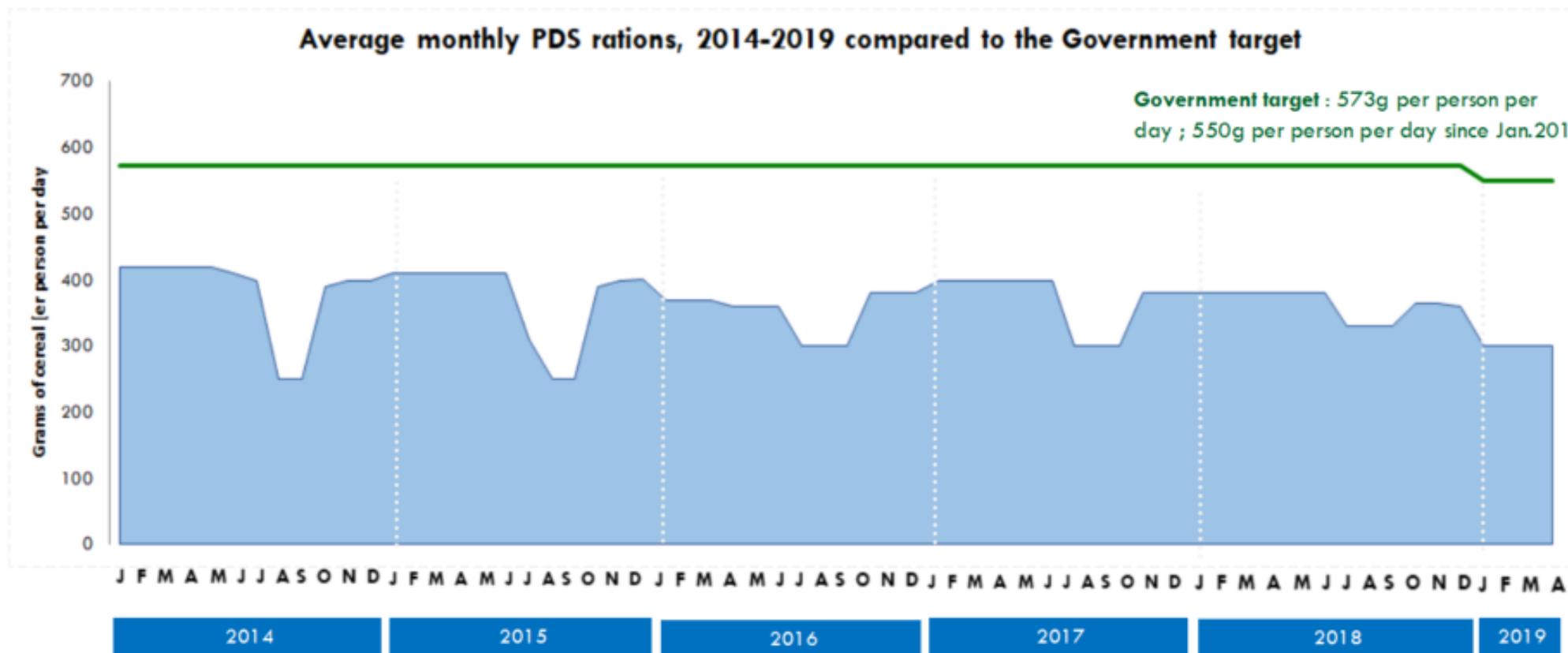
Heatwaves aggravated the power shortage and storage problems, causing more food losses

Most of cooperative farming households have basic or none storage facilities, disabling them to store post-harvest distribution effectively for 1 year as needed

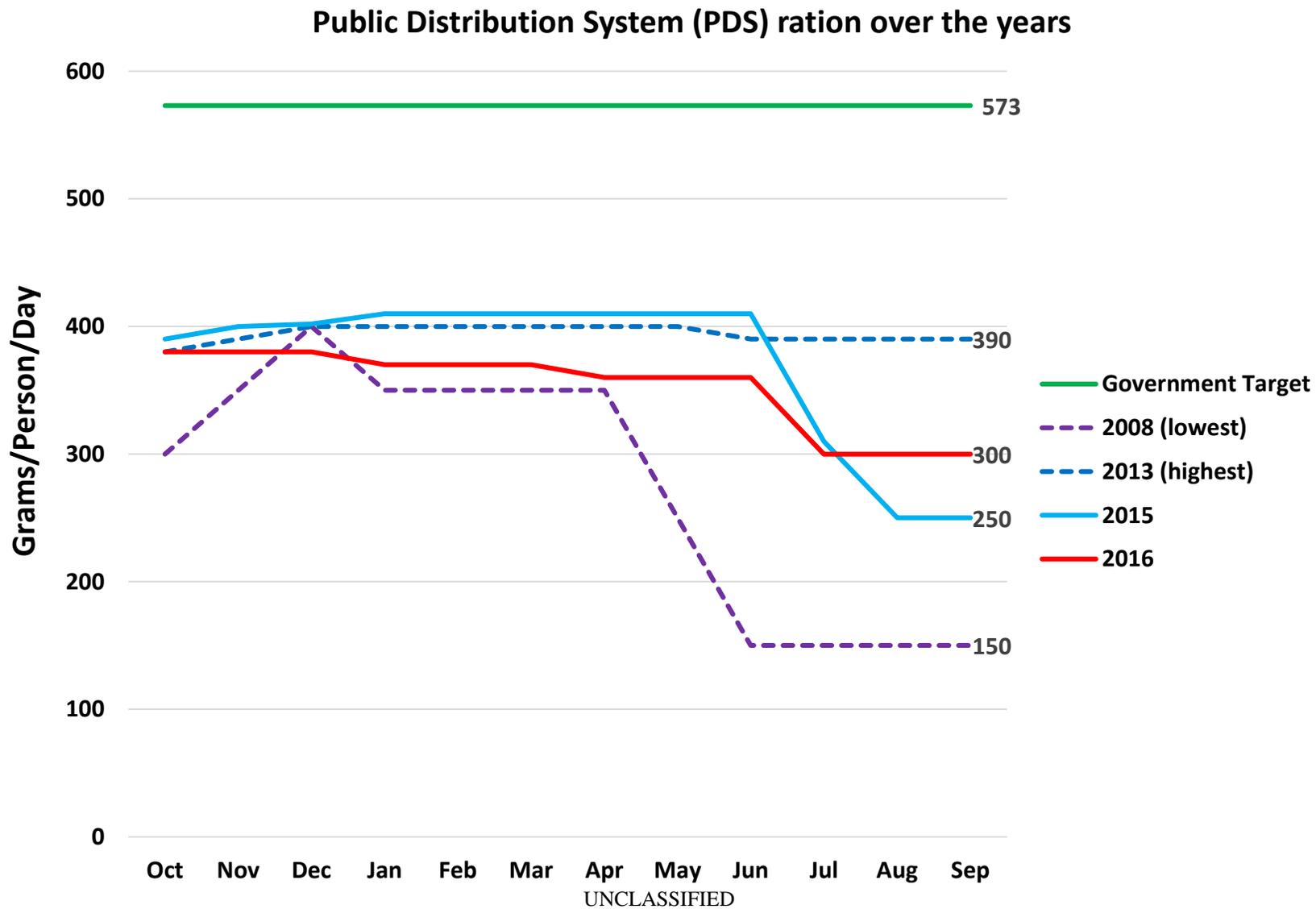
The rapid FAO/WFP food security assessment estimated post-harvest losses to range from 20 to 22 percent for cereals, 30 percent for potatoes and 10 percent for soybeans. Losses for cereals in marketing year 2018/19 are expected to be higher than usual



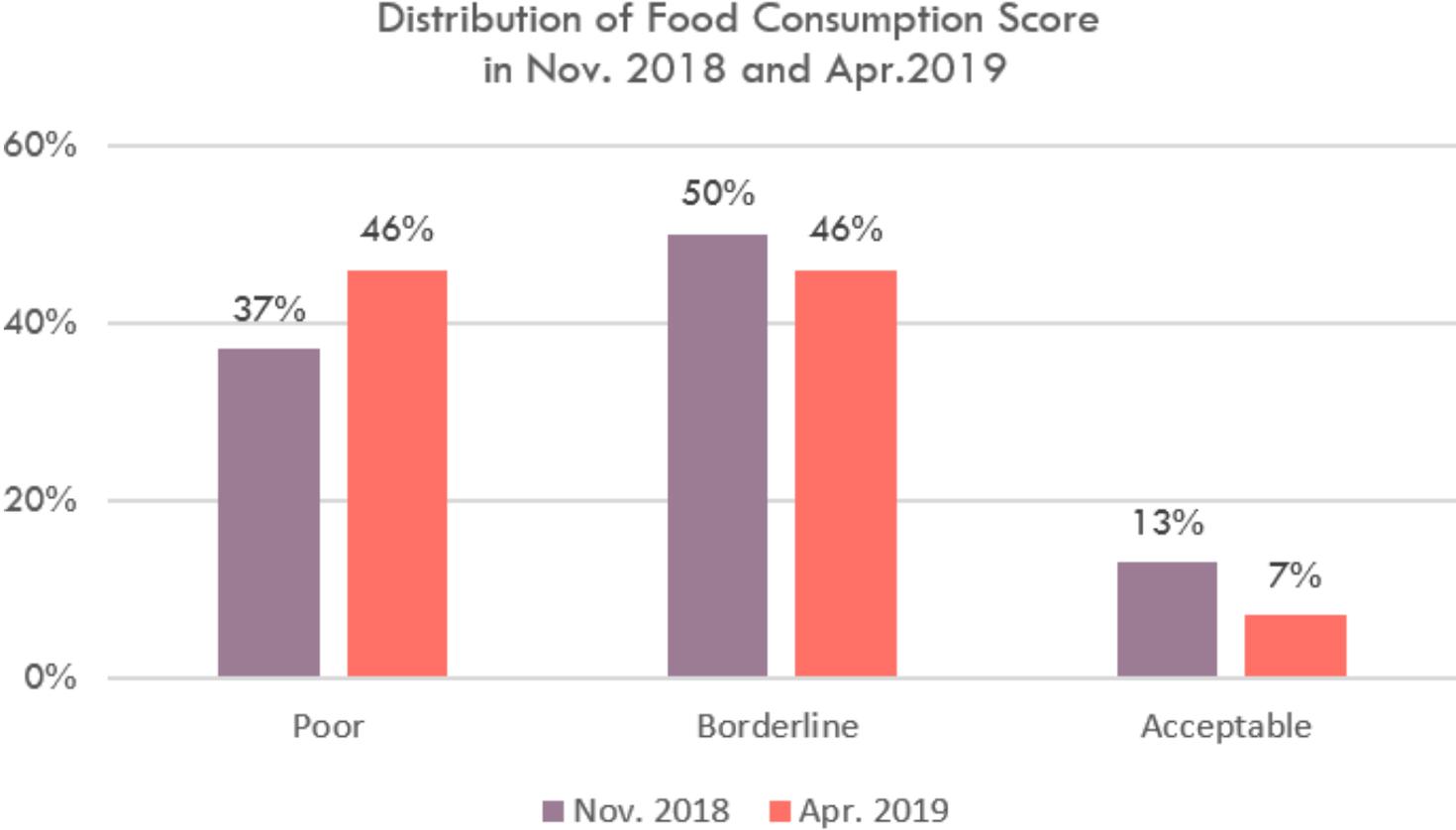
Since this January, rations of the Public Distribution System (PDS) have been reduced to 300grams per person per day, a lower level compared to previous years. The data is still not available on the early crop – situation continues to be serious and is closely followed.



Public Distribution of staple foods



Food Consumption score (FCS), as a proxy indicator reflecting household-level food access and dietary diversity, points to an overall alarming situation.

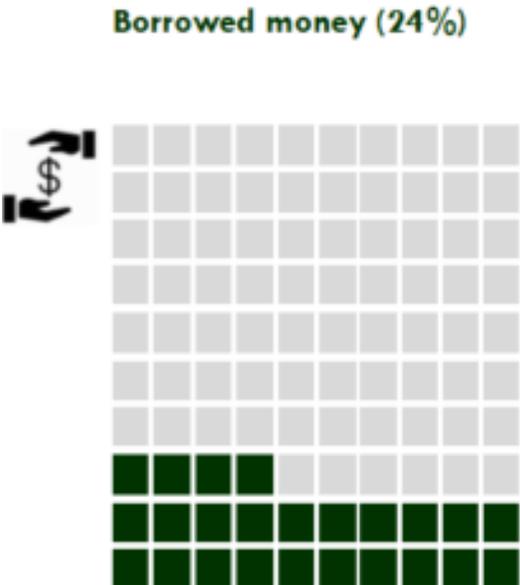
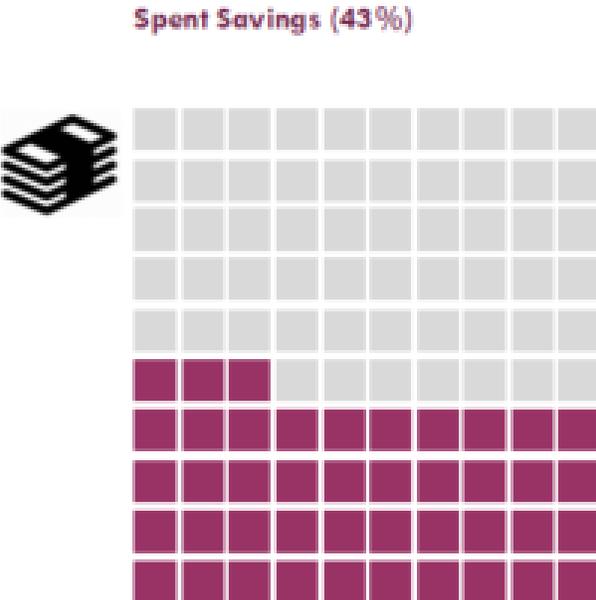
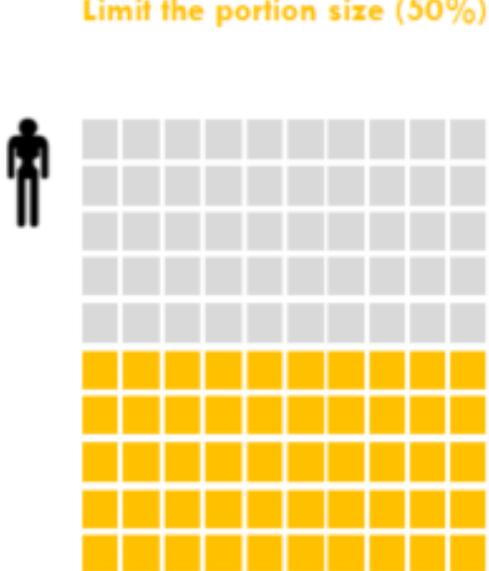


Overall, it is estimated that **10.1** million people (40 percent of the population) are in urgent need of food assistance.



Coping Strategies

Corresponding to the widespread suboptimal food consumption is the frequent adoption of coping strategies at household level to mitigate the food shortage.



Food-based coping strategies

Livelihood-based coping strategies



WFP Interim Country Strategic Plan 2019-2021 (ICSP)

Addressing undernutrition, reducing disaster risk, and responding to crises.

1. Improving nutrition and micronutrient intake among children under 7 and new mothers.
2. Reducing vulnerability to natural disasters and enabling at-risk communities to better cope with shocks.
3. Responding to humanitarian crises through immediate in-kind food assistance when needed.



Total USD 161m: Flexible design and room for a rapid scale-up

Towards achieving Zero Hunger (SDG 2)



Nutritional Support



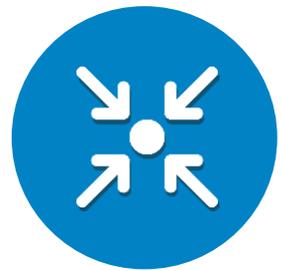
Disaster Risk Reduction



Crisis Response (a contingency)



"Access to data/ field verification"



Geographic Coverage

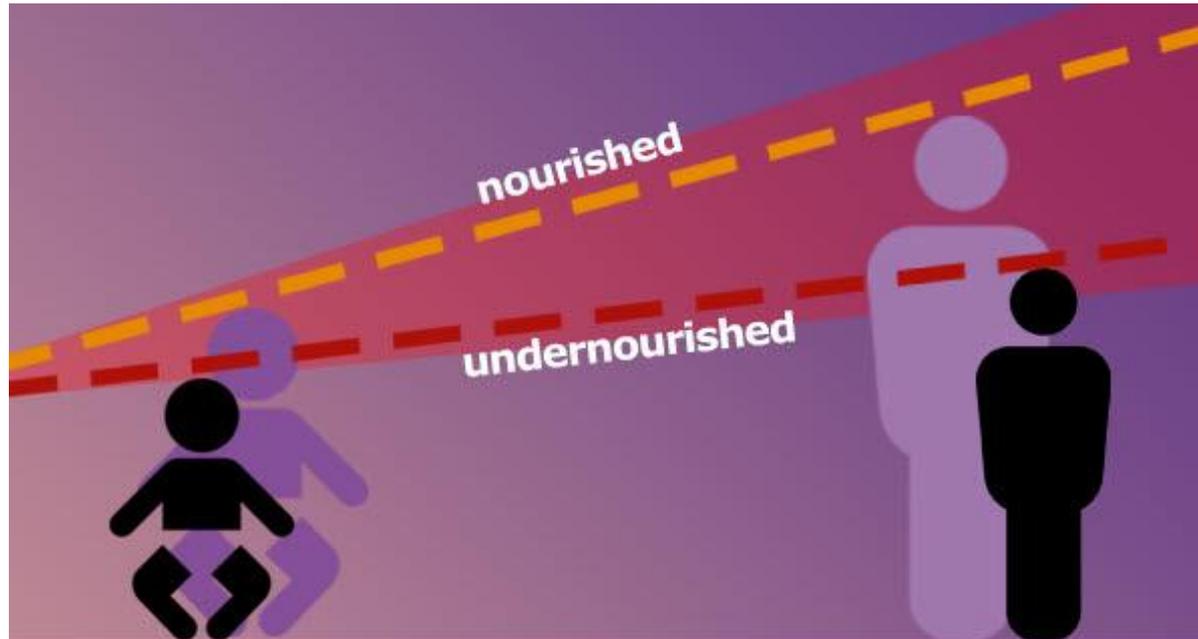


Goal 1
Support countries to achieve Zero Hunger (SDG 2)



Goal 2
Partner to support implementation of SDGs (SDG17)

Hidden Hunger



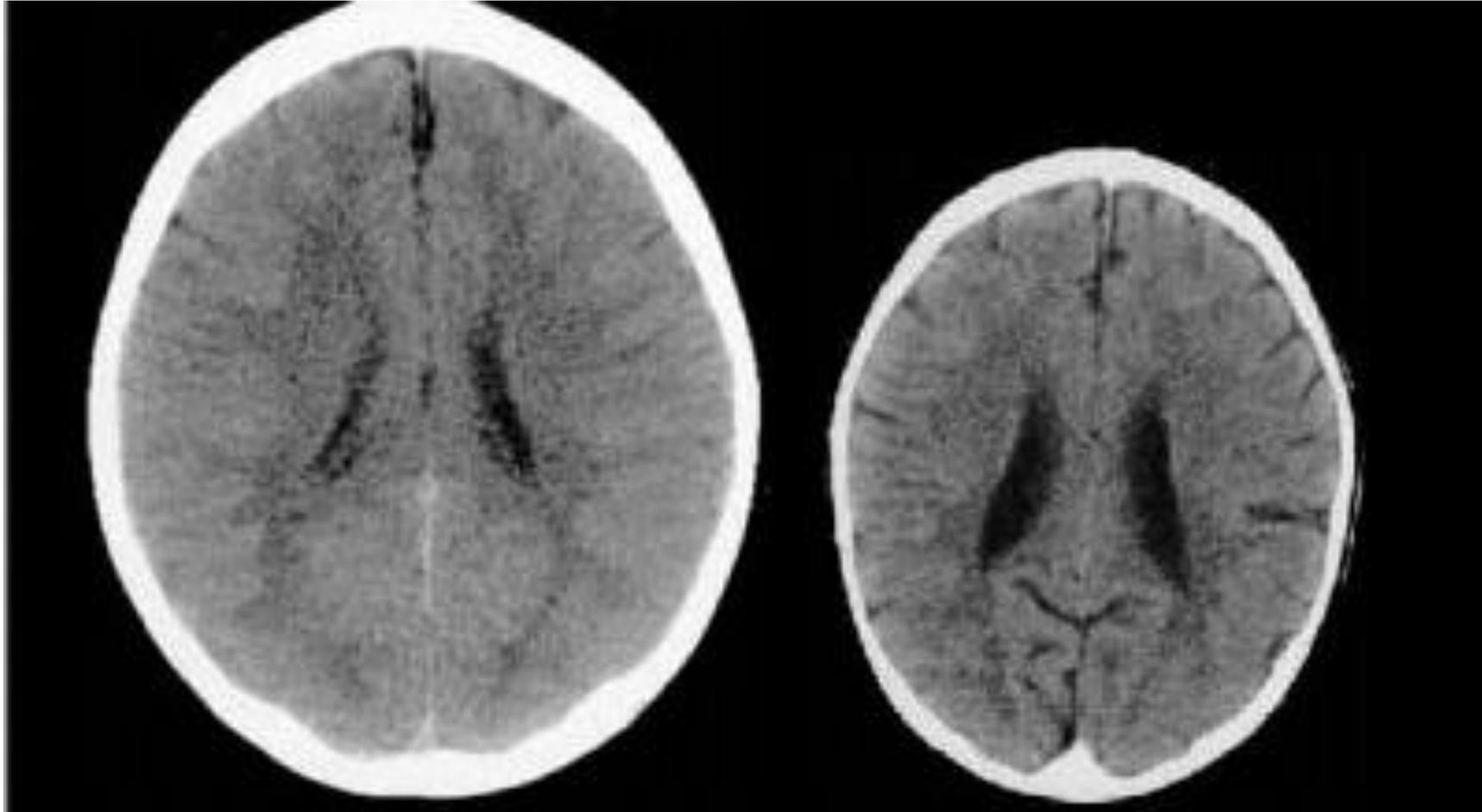
The infographic features a purple-to-red gradient background. A dashed yellow line slopes upwards from left to right, labeled 'nourished'. A dashed red line slopes downwards from left to right, labeled 'undernourished'. On the left, a black silhouette of a child is shown below the 'undernourished' line, with a larger purple silhouette of a child above it. On the right, a black silhouette of an adult is shown below the 'undernourished' line, with a larger purple silhouette of an adult above it.

If children don't receive **nutritious** food in their **first 2 years**, they may be stunted for life.



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Cost of Malnutrition



Comparison of neuron activity (3yrs old)



Normal child



Malnourished child

Negative effect of Malnutrition



Individual:

- As a result of malnutrition, **individuals may lose more than 10 percent of lifetime earnings** due to decreased productivity. (*World Bank*)
- The combination of low birth weight, stunting, chronic undernutrition and iodine deficiency can result in a **reduction of up to 30 points in IQ and render the body unable to resist chronic disease**, such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease, for life. (*World Bank*)

Country/World:

One study found that seven Central American and Caribbean countries lost as much as US\$6.6 billion in economic output due to childhood undernutrition – **equal to 6 percent of their GDP**. (*ECLAC/WFP 2007*)

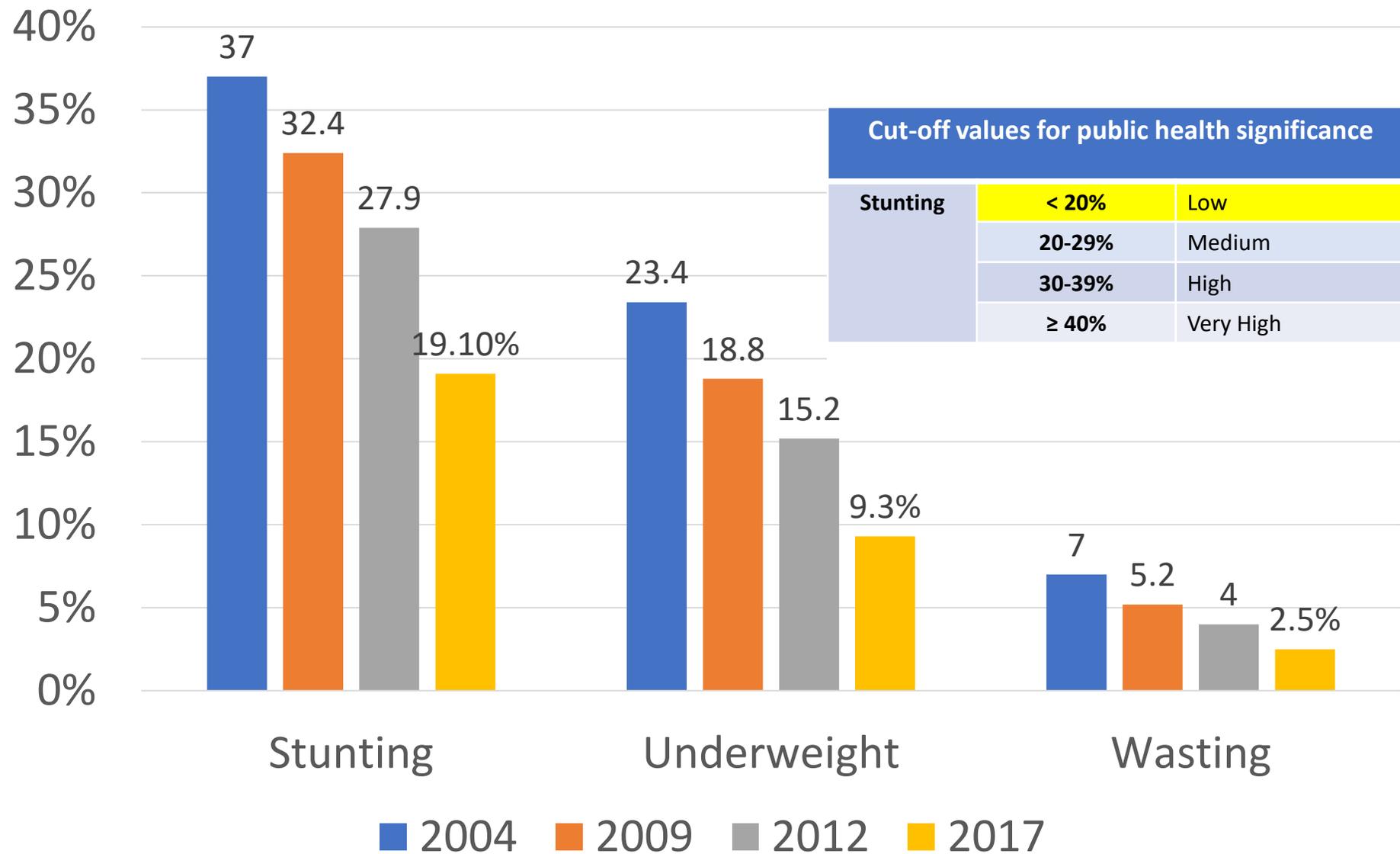
The World Bank estimates that US\$50 billion in worldwide GDP is lost due to iron deficiency and anaemia alone. (*World Bank 2004*)

Positive effects of investing in nutrition



- **Invest \$1 in nutrition, one can save average \$45 and up to \$166 (health cost etc)**
- **Invest \$1 in nutrition, ROI (Return on Investment) is 16.**
- **Impact to National GDP: 2~3% and up to 11% in case of some African and Asian countries.**

Child malnutrition (under five)



Disparities in malnutrition exist

Chronic malnutrition
(stunting)

Highest in Ryanggang



Lowest in Pyongyang and 4
others

	Stunting
	% stunted (moderate and severe)
National	19
Ryanggang	32
North Hamgyong	22
South Hamgyong	19
Kangwon	21
Jagang	23
North Pyongan	20
South Pyongan	19
North Hwanghae	19
South Hwanghae	19
Pyongyang	10

WFP- DPRK in Numbers



135,000 Pregnant and Lactating mothers – currently attending 114,500



335,000 children in nurseries – currently attending 332,500



195,000 children in kindergartens – currently attending 100,000



TB Program 58,500 – currently attending 8,200



Disaster Risk Reduction Activities – due to insufficient funding currently it is the least prioritized at present; This area of intervention is highly inelastic as was evidenced in 2018 with the large food deficit in 2019.



WFP Assistance in DPRK – Supply Chain Overview

IMPROVING NUTRITION & MICRONUTRIENT INTAKE
Locally-produced fortified cereals and biscuits





Hamhung CMB Factory





FFW /FFCD activities in DPRK 2002-2011

Main activities	Unit	Output
Tree Planting	Ha	13,608
Tree Nursery	Seedlings	173,575,000
Land Reclamation /Rehabilitation	Ha	1,334
Embankment	Km	1,411
Excavation	Km	241
Dams or Reservoirs	No	23
Drainage systems	Km	20
Water supply systems	Km	955
Irrigation system rehabilitation	Km	285

Tree Planting



Embankment Construction



Irrigation Systems



Micro-basins



New Soils



New Soil



Soil Conservation



WFP- how we do it!



Our greatest Asset – A cadre of Multicultural/Multifunctional technical International staff;



A Multi-Disciplinary Project Management Team incorporating technical Line ministries, enhancing the targeting and prioritizing of the areas of intervention;



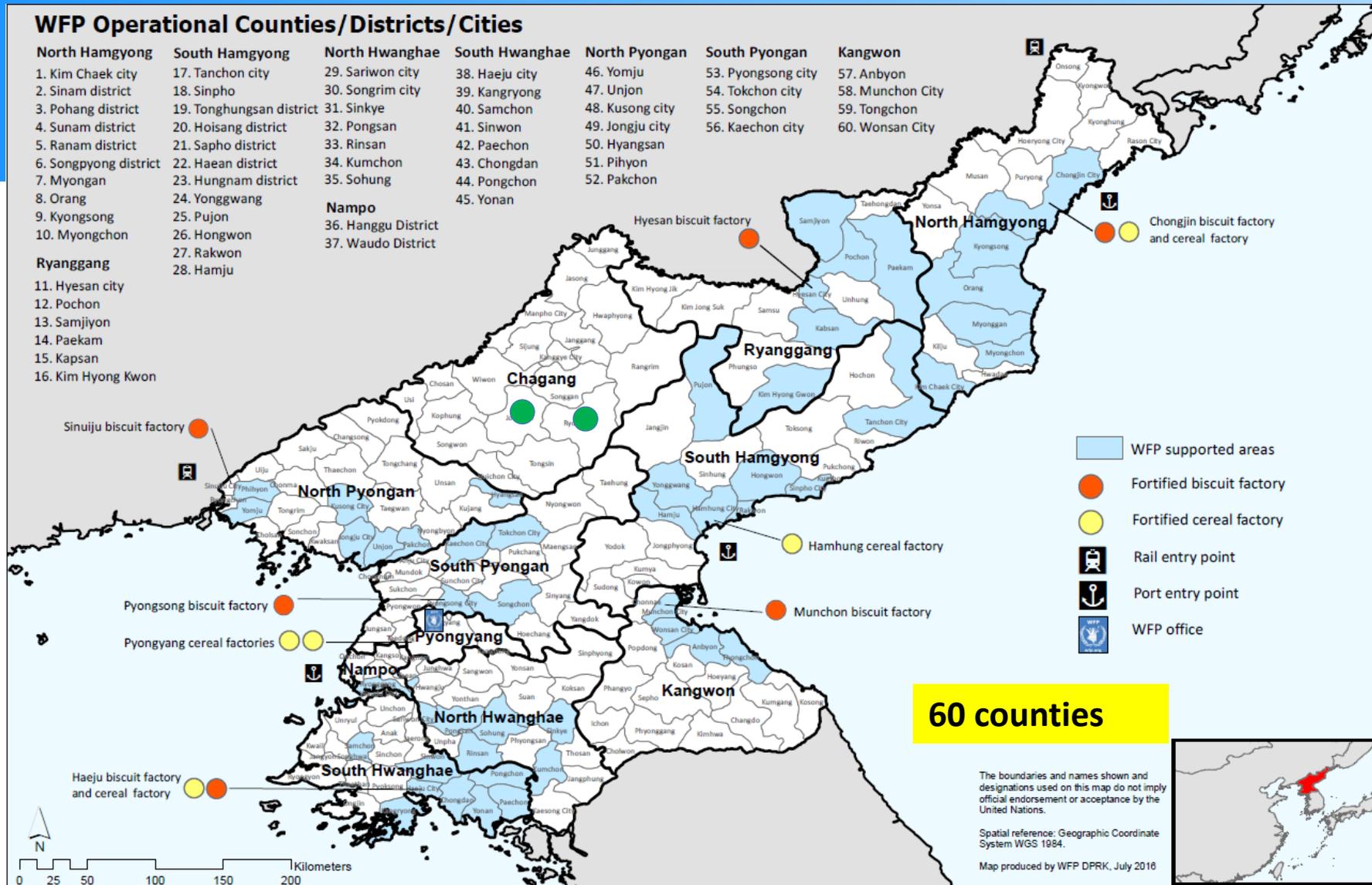
Rigorous Monitoring, Daily trips to the field – direct beneficiary contact, Intl Korean speaker on staff, to HH, LFPs, Nurseries, Hospitals, Orphanages, PDCs etc.; Operating in 9 Provinces and 60 counties;



Production of Fortified Foods – Cereals and Biscuits; Supervised by an Intl Food Technologist; Direct Monitoring of production sites (11) for Quality and Quantity control







60/210 operational areas and 9/11 provinces
Supports local factories for fortified cereals & fortified biscuits

RECOMMENDATIONS

Medium- to long-term actions



Sustain nutrition and food security operations



Provide machinery and equipment



Improve and upgrade storage facilities



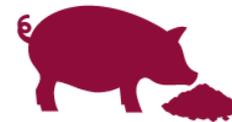
Introduce measures to diversify the crop production



Provide equipment for drying or desiccation of vegetables



Improve facilities for food processing and transformation



Improve capacity of detecting and controlling outbreak of African swine fever



Establish a robust food security and nutrition monitoring system

WFP - Challenges

There several challenges, the central and pivotal challenge is a predictable and consistent Supply Chain to ensure an un interrupted humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable.

A predictable and flexible funding enables WFP to enhance its negotiations with Govt Authorities, plan, prioritize, monitor and achieve better outputs and ultimately outcomes

WFP is operating below its capacity – not due to physical constraints or country context, we have the capacity to extend our reach to assist the food insecure – double or triple our current footprint and ensure that the gains that have been achieved in reducing malnutrition (28%-19%) are not lost;



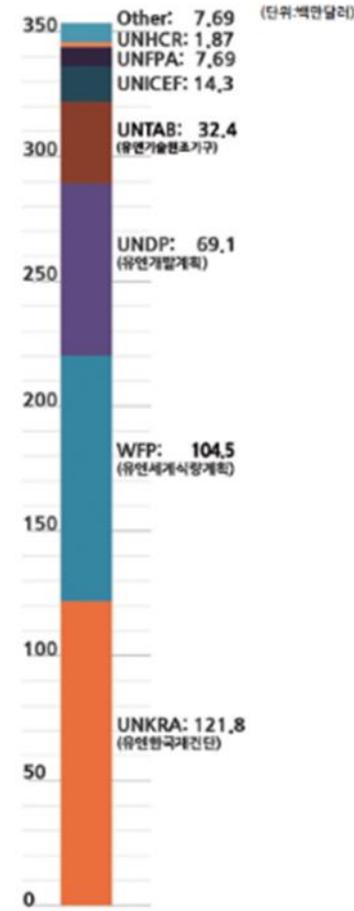


Helping Children 식량 영양 지원



Contributions to ROK through UN Agencies (1945-1999)

유엔 대한민국 원조 규모 (1945-1999)



WFP-assisted Operations in ROK (1964-1984)

유엔세계식량계획 대한민국 식량원조 개발사업 (1964-1984)



THANK YOU



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